Morgan County Commission Meeting Minutes Budget Meeting- March 22, 2012

<u>Members Present</u>: President Stacy Dugan, Commissioner Brenda Hutchinson and Commissioner Brad Close

<u>Others Present</u>: Cathy Payne, Chief Deputy County Clerk, Jody McClintock, County Administrator, Ginger Johnson, Commission Secretary and Josh Clark, Morgan Messenger

The meeting was opened by Cathy Payne, Chief Deputy County Clerk at 9:30 a.m.

Bill Clark, EDA Director- Tower Grant- Possible Decision on Tower Height Bill Clark, EDA Director, approached the Commission and explained that he has been working with Dave Michael, OES Director. Mr. Clark explained that they have a COPS technology grant for \$576,000 to construct towers in western Morgan County. Mr. Clark explained that he and Mr. Michael have negotiated one tower site on Purslain Mountain and are working on a second site in Long Hollow. Mr. Clark stated that the process has gotten complicated when it comes to determining the tower height. Mr. Clark stated that they originally talked about building 199' towers but Dave Michael felt it needed to be a minimum of 250'. This caused the study area to include a 2 mile radius instead of a 1 mile radius. Mr. Clark stated that after conferring with Dave Michael and hearing the needs of the OES (Office of Emergency Services) office they now propose to get the permits for the highest tower practical and then bid the project for different incremental heights of 350', 250' & 199'. Mr. Clark asked the Commission to decide on the tower height. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approved the 250' tower height. This motion carried.

Approve & Sign Budget

Commissioner Hutchinson explained that she has continued to work on the budget to try to reduce costs and prevent raising the levy rate. Commissioner Hutchinson presented a handout to the Commission for their review. Commissioner Hutchinson reviewed the handout with the Commission and explained that she had made additional budget cuts to keep the valorem tax revenue neutral at 98%. The Commission reviewed the list of budget cuts Commissioner Hutchinson presented. President Dugan stated that she would have loved to have had this the night before to have more time to review it. Commissioner Close stated that the proposed budget presented by Commissioner Hutchinson is not realistic. Commissioner Close stated that it seems like a campaign speech to him. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that it is not a campaign speech. On a Brad Close/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission approves the budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 that was previously prepared by the Commission. Commissioner Hutchinson opposed. This motion carried.

Morgan County Commission Budget Meeting March 22, 2012

Discussion on Commission packets

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if it was going to become mandatory that citizens who wish to come before the Commission present information ahead of time. President Dugan stated that she feels it needs to be mandatory. President Dugan explained that information is handed to them, and they have to make decisions without having time to review the information properly. President Dugan stated that the information is going to be on the website making it accessible to the public. Commissioner Close explained that at one time he didn't feel it should be mandatory but he feels differently now. Commissioner Close stated that having the information before the meeting allows them to be more productive. On a Brad Close/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission requires the completed agenda request form and any other information being presented before getting placed on the agenda. Commissioner Hutchinson opposed and explained that she doesn't feel that if a citizen wants to come before the Commission, it should be mandatory that they present the information ahead of time. This motion carried.

County Commission Community Volunteer of the Year Award

President Dugan explained that she would like to honor the Deputy Reserves for Volunteers of the Year Award. President Dugan stated that the Deputy Reserves volunteer at ballgames, funerals, parades, and they transport prisoners and direct traffic. President Dugan stated that they put in over 8000 hours volunteering in 2011. Commissioner Close stated that they do an outstanding job. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission will honor the Deputy Reserves as the 2012 Community Volunteers of the Year Award. This motion carried.

Administrator's Report

Jody McClintock, County Administrator, approached the Commission to open the quotes for needed electrical repairs at the community center. Ms. McClintock opened the following quotes:

LDH- \$2879

Hovermale's Building & Electrical- \$2275

Beddow Electric- \$3750

On a Stacy Dugan/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission accepted the quote from Hovermale's Building & Electrical in the amount of \$2275. This motion carried.

Executive Session- Interviews for Animal Control Officer

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission went into executive session at 10:00 a.m. to perform interviews for the Animal Control Officer position. This motion carried.

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission came out of executive session at 11:38 a.m. This motion carried.

Morgan County Commission Budget Meeting March 22, 2012

Adjournment On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. This motion carried.